

Law Enforcement (FINAL)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # _____

APP # 700611

ITEM 1. Proposed Project

The City of Ridgecrest is located in the west Mojave Desert, also known as the Indian Wells Valley (IWV), which is located in Kern County, the third-largest county in the state of California. Ridgecrest has a population of approximately 27,000 inside the city limits and about 10,000 living in the immediate surrounding area. Due to favorable weather and open desert grounds, Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) opportunities abound year-round. To the southwest of Ridgecrest is the well know Dove Springs open riding area where tens of thousands of off-road riders go annually to enjoy the open air opportunities. Located to the south of Ridgecrest is the Rand Mountains and Jawbone Canyon where more than 100,000 outdoor enthusiasts visit every year.

Recently, the OHV activity in east Kern County has increased considerably due to off-road restrictions in other counties such as Los Angeles, San Bernardino, and Riverside counties. Riders from more inhabited urban areas make the IWV their destination for outdoor hobbies due to the relatively short travel time and near-endless possibilities. During holidays and weekends, small off-road communities will form in the desert areas around the City of Ridgecrest. It has been estimated that between 60,000 and 100,000 riders and their families have come to enjoy the OHV opportunities in a single weekend. During their stay in the desert, these enthusiasts will often venture into Ridgecrest to replenish their food and fuel supplies as well enjoy other recreation options that the city has to offer. It is not uncommon for riders to bring their OHVs into town and trespass onto private property causing a need for an increased law enforcement presence to maintain a safe riding environment. While Ridgecrest does not offer off-highway roads or trails within city limits, it does host an annual OHV Grand Prix – The Desert Scramble – within the city limits. The riders involved in the race are allowed to ride on closed city streets and empty desert lots inside the city.

In addition to out-of-town riders, Ridgecrest also has a large number of off-road enthusiasts that call the city home. Dirt roads and open dirt lands are found within the city limits, crisscrossing and intersecting Ridgecrest neighborhoods. Ridgecrest-residing OHV hobbyists will often ride on paved city streets in order to get to the open and nearby desert to ride. Some will operate their off-highway vehicles on vacant properties within the city limits not knowing that they are trespassing on privately owned land. The Ridgecrest police department receives a great number of calls for service related to off-road riders trespassing on private property. Though there is land acceptable for OHV use conveniently located mere feet from city limits, city residents are often tempted to get there illegally by riding on city streets and infringing on private land.

Within the city limits, the Ridgecrest Police Department is responsible for all law enforcement including illegal OHV activity. From January 1st 2009 through January 1st 2010, there were over 400 calls for service from the public related to improper OHV use that were handled by the police department. These calls for service include noise complaints from the off-highway vehicles, to riders trespassing on private land. The Ridgecrest Police Department has taken several steps to try to reduce the frequency of these problems. The police department enforces the California Vehicle Code (CVC) on all paved and dirt roads within the city limits which also includes enforcement of 38000 section of the CVC. They also enforce Ridgecrest City's Municipal Code (RMC) 4-5.102, which restricts the use of OHV within the city limits on both public and private property. Ridgecrest is not properly equipped to handle OHV-related calls for service. Patrol officers are issued standard two-wheel-drive patrol units (Ford Crown Victoria) and are unable to contact OHV in desert areas without damaging these vehicles. Usually, officers are unable to contact the riders because they are traveling through areas unreachable except using OHVs.

The Ridgecrest Police Department has a good working relationship with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Kern County Sheriff's Office and often assists them with law enforcement, search and rescue, and more, both inside and outside the Ridgecrest city limits. With new equipment provided by OHMVR grant funding, the Ridgecrest Police will be able to more efficiently meet their community's needs as well as better assist BLM and KCSO personnel with OHV patrols, education of off-road laws, search and rescue, and more.

ITEM 2. Project Coverage

The Ridgecrest police department provides services to approximately 14 square miles of the Mojave Desert and more than 27,000 residents. A large number of dirt roads and trails entering the city of Ridgecrest are patrolled by Ridgecrest police officers for illegal OHV activity and rider assistance. The OHV enforcement needs within the city include enforcement of the California Vehicle and Penal Codes, Health and Safety Code, drunk driving, OHV registration, noise regulation, spark arrester requirements, safety equipment violations, trespassing, search and rescue response, rider safety, and education. When needed, the police department also responds and assists BLM and KCSO officers in their efforts to enforce OHV laws, help downed riders, and search and rescue operations.

The enforcement plan is to request funding for the purchase a four wheel drive truck, two dual-sport motorcycles, two quad motorcycles, one cargo trailer, safety equipment, and training to help officers patrol and educate OHV recreational riders. The purchase of two dual-sport motorcycles and two quads will help officers contact OHV riders and help enforce OHV laws. A storage trailer is needed for transporting and protecting the motorcycles and equipment from the outside climate, theft, etc. The trailer will double as a command post and information center for OHV events when deployed in the field. The 4WD truck will be used as patrol support vehicle designated to OHV enforcement and is necessary to pull the trailer which will carry the dirt bikes to legal and illegal off-highway venues throughout the Mojave Desert. The truck would also be used recover lost or injured riders and/or their OHVs. The truck will be outfitted as a patrol vehicle and used for enforcement and prisoner transport.

ITEM 3. Describe the frequency of the patrols

The Ridgecrest police officers conduct patrols within (and occasionally outside) the City of Ridgecrest all day, every day. The off-road teams will be deployed when OHV activity is the highest. The teams will conduct patrols during weekdays, weekends, and holidays. The teams will be able to enhance the presence of law enforcement and educate the public.

ITEM 4. Deployment of Personnel

The Ridgecrest Police Department has 17 full-time patrol officers that share patrol vehicles and calls for services regarding illegal OHV actives. In addition, the police department has a traffic unit which consist of one traffic officer and one traffic sergeant. One of the traffic unit's main responsibility is to deal with OHV illegal actives and educate the public regarding the responsible uses of OHV. The police department also has several reserve law enforcement officers and approximately 30 non-sworn volunteer personnel who assist the police department.

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Law Enforcement - Page 1

1. Identify areas with high priority law enforcement needs because of public safety, cultural resources, and sensitive environmental habitats, including wilderness areas and areas of critical environmental concerns:

Within the city limits of Ridgecrest, the police department responded to over 400 calls for services regarding illegal OHV activities. These calls for service included trespassing, reckless driving on public roadways, and public nuisances. Ridgecrest police officers also perform patrols along the boundaries of city limits and assist BLM and KCSO officers.

2. Describe how the proposed Project relates to OHV Recreation and will sustain OHV Recreation, motorized off-highway access to non-motorized recreation, or OHV Opportunities associated with the Project Area:

With the new equipment purchased by the OHMVR grant, the police department will be able to enforce, assist, and educate the OHV hobbyists more effectively. By actively patrolling the communities, the police department will be able to decrease illegal OHV activities on public and private properties and improve public safety by removing reckless OHV riders from the roadways. The police department also has officers who regularly visit local schools and educate the students regarding safe OHV use through presentations and programs. These efforts help ensure that the current OHV opportunities that exist in and around the city of Ridgecrest will not be reduced or eliminated.

3. Describe the Applicant's formal or informal cooperation with other law enforcement agencies:

The Ridgecrest Police Department maintains open cooperation with several law enforcement agencies including: BLM, Bakersfield Police Department, California City Police Department, China Lake Police Department, California Highway Patrol, Kern County Sheriff's Department, Inyo County Sheriff's Department, and the San Bernardino Sheriff's Department. The Ridgecrest police department has also started to meet with Red Rock Canyon State Park Rangers, Ridgecrest Field Office BLM Rangers, California City Police Officers, and Kern County Sheriff's Department Deputies each month to discuss issues related to OHV activities in the local area.

BLM Rangers and the Bakersfield OHV team also helped patrol the 2009 annual Grand Prix/Desert Scramble located inside the city of Ridgecrest. The patrols by the outside agencies helped reduce the number of OHV violations and insured the success of a safe Grand Prix.

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4. Does the Applicant recover a portion of the law enforcement costs directly associated with privately sponsored OHV events where sponsors have obtained a local permit? (Please select Yes or No)



Yes



No

Explain

The City's permit process does not have a method to directly re-imburse the police department. All funds are directly deposited into the city's General Account.

5. The Applicant agrees to implement a public education program that includes information on safety programs available in the area and how to report OHV violations? (Please select Yes or No)



Yes



No

6. Describe the Applicant's OHV law enforcement training program including how the training program educates personnel to address OHV safety and natural and cultural resource protection:

Several Ridgecrest officers have been certified in a 40-hour off-road motorcycle course by POST-certified instructors. The Ridgecrest Police Department is aware of the importance of enforcing off-road legislation as well as educating the riders. The department recognizes the significance of maintaining a healthy balance between the "letter of the law" and the "spirit of the law". The Ridgecrest police officers are dedicated to forming a lasting and mutually rewarding partnership with our OHV community based on respect and safety.

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7. Is the proposed project in accordance with local or federal plans and the OHMVR Division Strategic Plan? (Please select Yes or No) ☒ Yes ☐ No
8. LOCAL AGENCIES ONLY - Describe the Applicant's policies and/or agreements regarding enforcement on federal land:
The Ridgecrest Police Department has a verbal agreement with BLM allowing us to enforce State laws on Federal land. The police department cooperatively assist BLM rangers by providing back-up, sharing information, and assisting them with investigating crimes that happened on federal land.
9. COUNTIES ONLY - Describe how the OHV in-lieu of tax funds are being used and whether the use of these fees complements the Applicant's project:

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10. APPLICANTS WHO MANAGE OHV RECREATION FACILITIES – Describe how your organization is meeting its operation and maintenance needs:
The Ridgecrest Police Department currently does not manage an OHV recreation facility.
11. The Applicant agrees to enforce the registration of OHVs and the other provision of Division 16.5 commencing with Section 38000 of the vehicle code and to enforce other applicable laws regarding the operation of OHVs? (Please select Yes or No) ☒ Yes ☐ No

Project Cost Estimate

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____
APPLICANT NAME :	Ridgecrest Police Department		
PROJECT TITLE :	Law Enforcement (FINAL)	PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :	G09-03-46-L01
PROJECT TYPE :	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration		
PROJECT DESCRIPTION :	<p>The City of Ridgecrest is located in the west Mojave Desert, also known as the Indian Wells Valley (IWV), which is located in Kern County, the third-largest county in the state of California. Ridgecrest has a population of approximately 27,000 inside the city limits and about 10,000 living in the immediate surrounding area. Due to favorable weather and open desert grounds, Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) opportunities abound year-round. To the southwest of Ridgecrest is the well know Dove Springs open riding area where tens of thousands of off-road riders go annually to enjoy the open air opportunities. Located to the south of Ridgecrest is the Rand Mountains and Jawbone Canyon where more than 100,000 outdoor enthusiasts visit every year.</p> <p>Recently, the OHV activity in east Kern County has increased considerably due to off-road restrictions in other counties such as Los Angeles, San Bernardino, and Riverside counties. Riders from more inhabited urban areas make the IWV their destination for outdoor hobbies due to the relatively short travel time and near-endless possibilities. During holidays and weekends, small off-road communities will form in the desert areas around the City of Ridgecrest. It has been estimated that between 60,000 and 100,000 riders and their families have come to enjoy the OHV opportunities in a single weekend. During their stay in the desert, these enthusiasts will often venture into Ridgecrest to replenish their food and fuel supplies as well enjoy other recreation options that the city has to offer. It is not uncommon for riders to bring their OHVs into town and trespass onto private property causing a need for an increased law enforcement presence to maintain a safe riding environment. While Ridgecrest does not offer off-highway roads or trails within city limits, it does host an annual OHV Grand Prix – The Desert Scramble – within the city limits. The riders involved in the race are allowed to ride on closed city streets and empty desert lots inside the city.</p> <p>In addition to out-of-town riders, Ridgecrest also has a large number of off-road enthusiasts that call the city home. Dirt roads and open dirt lands are found within the city limits, crisscrossing and intersecting Ridgecrest neighborhoods. Ridgecrest-residing OHV hobbyists will often ride on paved city streets in order to get to the open and nearby desert to ride. Some will operate their off-highway vehicles on vacant properties within the city limits not knowing that they are trespassing on privately owned land. The Ridgecrest police department receives a great number of calls for service related to off-road riders trespassing on private property. Though there is land acceptable for OHV use conveniently located mere feet from city limits, city residents are often tempted to get there illegally by riding on city streets and infringing on private land.</p> <p>Within the city limits, the Ridgecrest Police Department is responsible for all law enforcement including illegal OHV activity. From January 1st 2009 through January 1st 2010, there were over 400 calls for service from the public related to improper OHV use that were handled by the police department. These calls for service include noise complaints from the off-highway vehicles, to riders trespassing on private land. The Ridgecrest Police Department has taken several steps to try to reduce the frequency of these problems. The police department enforces the California Vehicle Code (CVC) on all paved and dirt roads within the city limits which also includes enforcement of 38000 section of the CVC. They also enforce Ridgecrest City's Municipal Code (RMC) 4-5.102, which restricts the use of OHV within the city limits on both public and private property. Ridgecrest is not properly equipped to handle OHV-related calls for service. Patrol officers are issued standard two-wheel-drive patrol units (Ford Crown Victoria) and are unable to contact OHV in desert areas without damaging these vehicles. Usually, officers are unable to contact the riders because they are traveling through areas unreachable except using OHVs.</p>		

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
Agency: Ridgecrest Police Department
Application: Law Enforcement (FINAL)

3/1/2010

	<p>The Ridgecrest Police Department has a good working relationship with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Kern County Sheriff's Office and often assists them with law enforcement, search and rescue, and more, both inside and outside the Ridgecrest city limits. With new equipment provided by OHMVR grant funding, the Ridgecrest Police will be able to more efficiently meet their community's needs as well as better assist BLM and KCSO personnel with OHV patrols, education of off-road laws, search and rescue, and more.</p>
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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
DIRECT EXPENSES							
Program Expenses							
1	Staff						
	Sergeant	120.000	33.640	HRS	0.00	4,037.00	4,037.00
	Law Enforcement Officers	380.000	27.400	HRS	0.00	10,412.00	10,412.00
	Law Enforcement Officers Notes : Non-paid reserve officers will be assigned to various OHV operations.	240.000	27.400	HRS	0.00	6,576.00	6,576.00
	Other-Dispatcher	220.000	22.000	HRS	0.00	4,840.00	4,840.00
	Other-volunteer	400.000	20.000	HRS	0.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
	Law Enforcement Officers Notes : Extra enforcement time for patrol officers.	100.000	40.100	HRS	4,010.00	0.00	4,010.00
	Sergeant Notes : Extra enforcement time for a sergeant.	100.000	57.300	HRS	5,730.00	0.00	5,730.00
	Total for Staff				9,740.00	33,865.00	43,605.00
2	Contracts						
3	Materials / Supplies						
	Safety Equipment Notes : Motorcycle safety equipment: Helmets, goggles, riding pants, riding boots, gloves, hydration systems, and radio communication ear pieces for the officers while on patrol.	4.000	1200.000	PKG	4,800.00	0.00	4,800.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
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3/1/2010

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Emergency Medical Supplies Notes : First Aid kit for first responders assisting injured OHV riders. The kit will be kept with the OHV trailer when it is used as a command post while out in the field.	1.000	150.000	EA	150.00	0.00	150.00
	Other-GPS unit Notes : A GPS unit will help assist officers in locating OHV riding areas and make locating injured rider easier.	4.000	350.000	EA	1,400.00	0.00	1,400.00
	Other-Sound/noise dosibel meter Notes : A docibel meter to test the compliance of off-road motorcycles' exhaust systems to ensure they do not exceed the maximum decibels allowed by the California Vehicle Code.	1.000	500.000	EA	500.00	0.00	500.00
	Total for Materials / Supplies				6,850.00	0.00	6,850.00
4	Equipment Use Expenses						
	Vehicle Operations and Maintenance Notes : This item covers the fuel costs of of operating the motorcycles and truck. This also pays for routine maintence of the offroad vehicles, new tires, oil changes, etc.	1.000	4200.000	PKG	0.00	4,200.00	4,200.00
5	Equipment Purchases						
	Other-4x4 Truck Notes : The cost of the truck includes license and tax fees, as well as the installation fees for outfitting it as a patrol vehicle. The truck itself must be four-wheel-drive (4wd), crew cab, heavy suspension, and off-road tires. The required outfitting includes emergency lights, spot lights, radio, siren, tow package, prisoner cage, and police decals. The 4WD truck will be used as patrol support vehicle designated for OHV enforcement and prisoner transport. It must be able to pull the requested trailer and recover lost or injured riders and/or their OHVs. The estimated cost for the truck is \$40,000 and another \$10,000 to outfit the truck as an off-road	1.000	50000.000	PKG	50,000.00	0.00	50,000.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
Agency: Ridgecrest Police Department
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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	patrol vehicle.						
	Other-ATV/motorcycle trailer	1.000	9000.000	PKG	9,000.00	0.00	9,000.00
	Other-Dual Sport motorcycle Notes : The cost of the motorcycle includes license and tax fees, as well as the installation fees for outfitting it as a patrol bike. The bike itself must be a dual-sport, street legal motorcycle, and black and white in color. The required outfitting includes emergency lights, siren, radio with wireless control system, helmet with wireless communication kit, and police decals and graphics. The purchase of two dual-sport motorcycles will help officers contact OHV riders and help enforce OHV laws. The estimated cost for the dual-sport motorcycle is \$11,000 and another \$8000 to outfit the bike for OHV enforcement.	2.000	19000.000	PKG	38,000.00	0.00	38,000.00
	Other-Quads Notes : The cost of the quad includes license and tax fees, as well as the installation fees for outfitting it as a patrol quad. The required outfitting includes emergency lights, siren, radio, and police decals and graphics. The purchase of two quads will help officers contact OHV riders and help enforce OHV laws. The estimated cost for the quad is \$ 9,500 and another \$5000 to outfit the quad for OHV enforcement.	2.000	14500.000	PKG	29,000.00	0.00	29,000.00
	Total for Equipment Purchases				126,000.00	0.00	126,000.00
6	Others						
	Training Notes : To send two LE officers to a POST ATV/Dual sport motorcycle training class.	2.000	2000.000	PKG	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00
	Training Notes : To send two LE officers to a POST ATV/Dual sport trianing to be qualified as ATV/Dual sport instructors so they can train the	2.000	2000.000	PKG	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
Agency: Ridgecrest Police Department
Application: Law Enforcement (FINAL)

3/1/2010

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	other LE personnel in the safe use of the department's Dual sport motorcycles.						
	Total for Others				8,000.00	0.00	8,000.00
7	Indirect Costs						
	Indirect Costs-Administrative Costs Notes : Process grant paperwork, track OHV statistics, and other OHV administrative tasks.	1.000	15300.000	PKG	0.00	15,300.00	15,300.00
	Total Program Expenses				150,590.00	53,365.00	203,955.00
	TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES				150,590.00	53,365.00	203,955.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES				150,590.00	53,365.00	203,955.00

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
Agency: Ridgecrest Police Department
Application: Law Enforcement (FINAL)

3/1/2010

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
DIRECT EXPENSES					
Program Expenses					
1	Staff	9,740.00	33,865.00	43,605.00	
2	Contracts	0.00	0.00	0.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	6,850.00	0.00	6,850.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	0.00	4,200.00	4,200.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	126,000.00	0.00	126,000.00	
6	Others	8,000.00	0.00	8,000.00	
7	Indirect Costs	0.00	15,300.00	15,300.00	
Total Program Expenses		150,590.00	53,365.00	203,955.00	
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES		150,590.00	53,365.00	203,955.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		150,590.00	53,365.00	203,955.00	

Environmental Review Data Sheet (ERDS)

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ITEM 1 and ITEM 2

ITEM 1

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Please select Yes or No)

ITEM 2

- b. Does the proposed Project include a request for funding for CEQA and/or NEPA document preparation prior to implementing the remaining Project Deliverables (i.e., is it a two-phased Project pursuant to Section 4970.06.1(b)) (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

ITEM 3 - Project under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378

- c. ITEM 3 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Please select Yes or No)
- d. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) ☒ Yes ☐ No
- e. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 4 – 10

ITEM 4 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

ITEM 5 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

ITEM 6 - Soil Impacts

ITEM 7 - Damage to Scenic Resources

ITEM 8 - Hazardous Materials

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

ITEM 9 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

Discuss the potential for the proposed Project to have any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources.

ITEM 10 - Indirect Significant Impacts

CEQA/NEPA Attachment